COMIC SHOP NEWS 1989

FALL PREVIEW!

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Comic Shop News takes an exclusive look at hundreds of projects due from over four-dozen publishers from now through November!

Aardvark-Vanaheim

Cerebus the Aardvark will continue to offer the ongoing "Jaka's Story," which Dave Sim refers to as "a male love story." Aardvark-Vanaheim's only other offering is ***Cerebus Bi-Weekly***, which offers reprints of ***Cerebus*** early issues. This fall, fans will have a chance to see reprints up through ***Cerebus #28***. Each issue of ***Cerebus Bi-Weekly*** will also feature a new single page under the appropriate subtitle "The Single Page." (***Cerebus the Aardvark*** is priced at $2 per 24-page issue; Cerebus Bi-Weekly costs $1.25 for a 32-page issue.)

Abacus Press

The Chronicles of Panda Khan #5, set for November release, continues the irregularly-published adventures of the anthropomorphic Panda Khan as told by Monica Sharp and Dave Garcia. This issue is the second part of a two-parter that pits Panda Khan against space pirates (my, how alliterative!). There will also be a special pin-up gallery featuring Panda Khan art by Sam Kieth, Mark Martin, Valentino, Phil Yeh, and others. Meanwhile, fans who missed out on the first appearance of Panda Khan will have another chance in November; Abacus Press has scheduled a new printing of ***The Chronicles of Panda Khan #1***, just in time for the character's appearance in the ***Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*** action figure line early next year. ($2)

AC

AC's premiere superheroine group, ***Femforce***, dominates the AC line-up this fall. Not only will readers have two issues of the ongoing ***Femforce*** title to look forward to, but the story in ***Femforce #21*** (September and #22 (November) makes up a two parter featuring the return of the villainous Dr. Pretorious. To help fans get through the Femforce-less month of October, AC has scheduled ***Femforce in the House of Horror #1***, a one-shot that takes the members of Femforce into a Florida "House of Horrors" where real demons are killing off unsuspecting tourists. ($2.50 per issue)

AC's Collector Classics series offers a superb science fiction volume, ***Thrilling Science Tales***, in September; this 44-page $3.50 book reprints classic stories by Frank Frazetta, Roy Krenkel, Al Williamson Wally Wood, Joe Orlando, and Fred Guardineer, and gives readers a new Mike Kaluta cover as a bonus.

November is Western Month for the Collector Classics series, with new reprint editions of ***Rocky Lane Western*** (featuring a Dick Giordano story) and ***The Presto Kid*** with art by Dick Ayers.

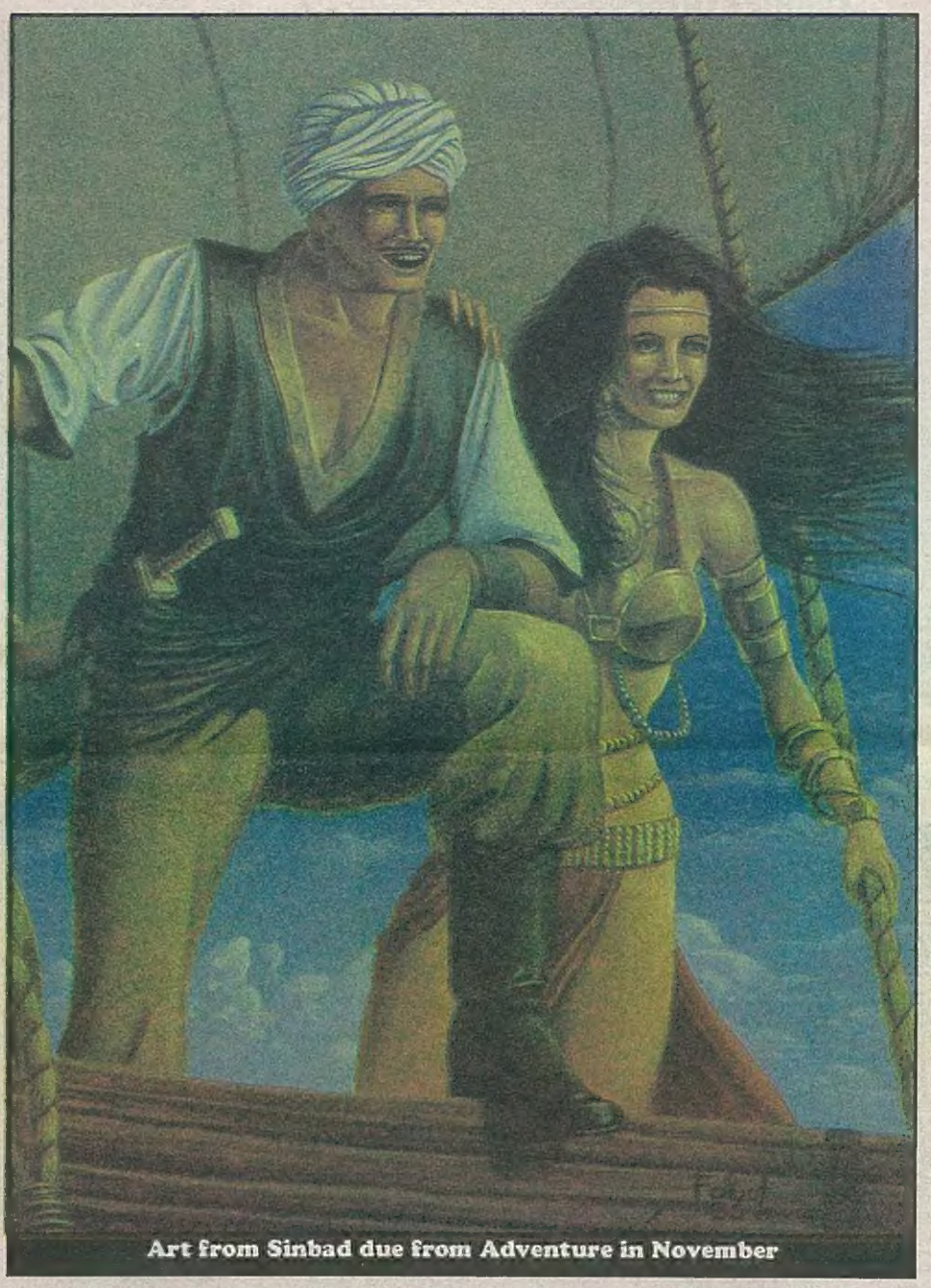
Adventure

After a hiatus and a change of publisher, Adventure Comics is set to return to the shelves this fall with some old favorites and some new offerings as well.

The flagship Adventure title, Adventurers, returns with ***Adventurers Book III #1*** by Kent Burles and Steve Stiles. ***Adventurers*** is a high-fantasy heroic adventure title set in the magical land of Anoria. Following a tradition established with the first ***Adventurers*** book in 1986, there will be two different covers for this issue: a regular cover and a limited-edition cover. Each edition of the new monthly title will be priced at $2.25.

Adventure will offer a new three-issue limited series, ***Bad Axe***, beginning in October. This series focuses on Tanree, a wolf-child in search of her origins in the war-torn land of Pangaea. O'Connor, Burles, and Baldwin unravel the fantastic plot-threads in this series; Mitch Foust supplies the painted covers. ($2.25)

Adventure adds a new limited series, ***Sinbad***, in November. This series by R.A. Jones, Wyman, and McKorkindale focuses on the famous sailor in a four-issue limited series subtitled "The Four Trials." Sinbad is given four fantastic tasks to perform in order to win his freedom from the Caliph who has captured him. Sinbad will feature minor nudity, so the comic is for mature readers only. ($2.25)



Art from Sinbad due from Adventure in November

Aircel

Aircel's line continues pretty much on course this fall, with only a few new additions. ***The Walking Dead***, a four-issue limited series by Jim Somerville, is a gory horror tale in the tradition of ***Night of the Livind Dead*** and ***Deadworld***. An alien spacecraft releases a rejuvenation gas in a Washington DC graveyard, creating an army of flesh-eating once-dead monsters. Set to begin in September, this series will run through the end of the year. ($2.25)

Ripper, scheduled for November release, is a series about a young man who is pushed to the edge by the rape and murder of his fiancee by a street gang. Aircel warns that this Barry Blair comic will feature extremely violent content, is intended for mature readers, and will be shipped pre-bagged. ($2.50)

Speaking of pre-bagged, Aircel's other pre-bagged title, ***Leather and Lace***, will continue through the fall with regular and adults-only editions. Each book will feature the same storylines, but the artwork has been redone in a tamer form for the all-audiences edition. As always, the adult edition is pre-bagged. ($2.50 for the adult version, $1.95 for the all-audiences edition)

Antarctic

Mangazine #3, scheduled for October publication, will introduce a new supernatural super-hero feature by Ben Dunn. The page-count is down to 32 pages, but the price is down to $1.75--and as always, ***Mangazine*** features no ads.

Apple Comics

This fall, ***Blood of Dracula*** will feature Berni Wrightson illustrations done for his ***Frankenstein*** project years ago but never published prior to this release. Wrightson will also do the cover for ***Blood of Dracula #17***, which may hit comic shops prior to the end of the year (Apple is catching up on its schedule right now).

Archie

Archie's newest success, ***Archie 3000***, continues its monthly publication, featuring "what-if" stories that look at the Riverdale gang in the world of the Thirtieth Century. This title has been a surprise success for Archie this year, and as a result, more Archie titles expanding on the original Archie concept are planned.

In October, Archie will introduce ***Jughead's Pal Hot Dog***, a comic that features the Archie crew as supporting characters and focuses on the anthropomorphic adventures of Hot Dog. The first issue, which takes Hot Dog into outer space and tells the story of his mysterious dog-house, is refreshingly reminiscent of the sort of grand adventure previously reserved only for better Disney books. (.95)

Of course, Archie's ***Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*** series continues to feature new stories in the style of the TMNT animated feature.

Ballantine

This mainstream publisher has one item that comics fans won't want to miss: ***Tales of the Dark Knight***, a trade paperback exploring Batman's first fifty years, is scheduled for October release. This is the *only* book-length comprehensive study of Batman scheduled for this fiftieth-birthday year, so don't miss it! ($17.95)

Big City

Delta Tenn, optioned for a television series starring Shannon Tweed, will continue to feature the exploits of this beautiful near-future policewoman. In ***Delta Tenn #11***, a September release, Delta Tenn is involved in an investigation of a hospital where the patients aren't getting better--they're getting dead. ($1.50)

Blackthorne

Blackthorne's stock-in-trade remains its 3-D titles, which are scheduled in abundance this fall. New issues of ***Moonwalker in 3-D***, adapting the Michael Jackson video, are planned, along with a 3-D limited series based on the ***Nightmare on Elm Street*** series.

Blackthorne is also repackaging a variety of its now-defunct series as black-and-white graphic albums and prestige-format comics, including ***Crow of the Bear Clan***, ***Nervous Rex***, ***Revolving Doors***, and ***Street Wolf*** in October and ***Werewolf*** in November. ($3.50-$6.95)

Caliber Press

Caliber, like many small independent companies, is running a bit late on its releases, so many of the titles mentioned in the Summer Preview won't actually appear until this fall. This includes ***Hot Shots***, the Timmons-Washington story of a group of Eco-Cops determined to enforce ecological laws in a polluted future, as well as issues of ***The Crow***, ***Baker Street***, and ***Caliber Presents***.

In September, Caliber takes over the former Matrix line. The company will offer two reprint trade paperbacks of hard-to-find Ma-

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trix material: ***Dragonstar,*** reprinting and completing the first adventure by Bramstrup and Carr; and ***Northguard Book One: Manifest Destiny*** reprinting Shainblum's and Morrissette's introductory adventure presenting a realistic Canadian superhero.

At the same time the Northguard trade paperback appears, Caliber will issue the first part of a three-issue limited series, ***Northguard Book Two: The Mandes Conclusion.*** The original creators are back for this mini-series; Ken Steacy supplies the cover.

Caliber will wander West in ***Gringo #1,*** a Western one-shot by Garrett, Reid, and Johnston that is reminiscent of the "spaghetti westerns" starring Clint Eastwood. ($1.95, October)

Fugitive moves from the pages of ***Caliber Presents*** to its own title. This offbeat series focuses on Detective Delaney and his nemesis, the criminal Raisch, as they wander from one television-inspired alternate reality to the other. The adventures in this 48-page $2.50 comic take Delaney and Raisch into worlds that resemble Hogan's Heroes, Star Trek, The Wild Wild West, and more.

Go-Man goes to Caliber in November; readers not familiar with Go-Man will be able to read the original stories in ***Go-Man/Mack the Knife: The Collections,*** a $9.95 trade paperback "flip-book." Meanwhile, Bill Widener presents new Go-Man tales in ***Go-Man*** #1, a $2.50 premier issue under the Caliber imprint. Matt Wagner supplies the cover for this premiere issue.

Catalan

Young Blueberry is Catalan's major project for the fall; this series of graphic novels will reprint stories of the young Mike Donovan, whose later exploits as Lt. Blueberry are being featured in a series of Epic graphic novels. Michel Charlier and Moebius, the creators of ***Lt. Blueberry,*** handle the honors for these graphic novels as well. The first book is set to appear in September/October. ($7.95)

Necron, an sf sex farce in the spirit of Ranxerox, is on Catalan's November schedule. This work by Magnus focuses on Dr. Frieda Boher, who assembles her own personal love slave from the bodies of the dead. It's really not as gruesome as it sounds, Catalan assures us--but it *is* intended for adult readers. ($9.95)

Comico

Comico, which cut back on its line this past spring, is gradually adding a few new titles this fall. In September, Comico brings back the classic ***E-Man*** series with a one-shot produced by the original series creators, Nick Cuti and Joe Staton. The one-shot, which could lead into a new series in 1990 if response is strong, will feature E-Man's supporting cast--Nova Kane, Mike Mauser, and the rest of the gang. ($2.75)

Silverback, a three-issue limited series set to begin in October, focuses on Argent, archnemesis of the original Grendel, Hunter Rose. Will Messner-Loebs and Matt Wagner co-plot the series; Messner-Loebs handles the art honors for the series, which begins in the 16th Century when Argent was just another member of an Indian tribe, and follows him on his strange journey through life. ($2.50)

Comics Interview

Comics Interview's fall schedule primarily features its flagship book, ***Comics Interview*** (upcoming issues feature talks with Howard Chaykin, the folks behind the X-Men, and various people involved with Batman in both comics and film), and the comic-strip reprint title ***Comics Revue,*** which is finally appearing more or less on schedule.

Southern Knights will be represented with a reprinting of the ***Southern Knights' Dread Halloween Special.*** Otherwise, this will be a Knights-less fall, it seems...

Dark Horse

Dark Horse has proven just how popular movie-inspired books can be with the success of their ***Aliens*** and ***Predator*** series. Both ***Predator*** and ***Aliens Book II*** are set to complete their four-issue runs this fall.

Fans who want more Aliens and Predator need to keep an eye on ***Dark Horse Presents. DHP #34*** (September) will feature an Aliens solo story; ***DHP #35*** (October) will feature a Predator solo story; ***DHP #36*** (November) will bring the two movie-monstrosities together in a story by Randy Stradley and Phillip Norwood; and December will bring the first issue of ***Aliens Vs. Predator,*** a three-issue full-color limited series that will face the Aliens and the Predators against one another. ***(DHP*** is priced at $1.95 per issue; ***Aliens Vs. Predator,*** $2.50)

While Mark Verheiden's and Mark Nelson's ***Aliens*** series may be over, fans will have another chance to re-live the excitement in November when Dark Horse releases ***Aliens Collection Volume One,*** a $10.95 trade paperback reprinting all six issues of the limited series plus the Aliens story from ***Dark Horse Presents #24.***

Cheval Noir, Dark Horse's series of international comics for an American audience, continues this fall with work from Druillet, Duranona, Tardi, Darrow, and more. In October, Dark Horse offers its first graphic novel from a Cheval Noir feature-team; ***Aquablue*** by Cailleteau and Vatine is a science fiction adventure set on the watery world of Aquablue, where human interference may threaten the planet.

Roachmill fans can enjoy a new installments of the Hedden & McWeeney series in September as well as a collection of hard-to-find old installments in October. ***Roachmill #7*** ($1.95) continues the "Laser Killer" storyline that began in the previous issue. ***Roachmill Collection Volume Two*** reprints the last two Blackthorne issues along with Roachmill's first Dark Horse appearance. ($6.95)

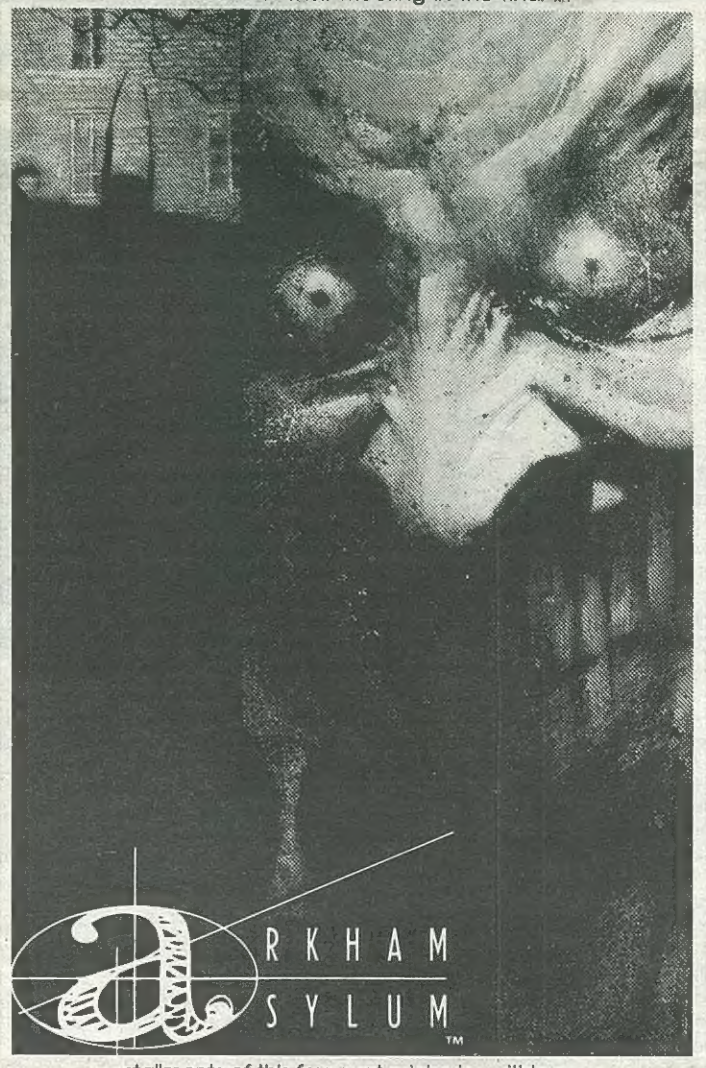
Dark Horse Presents has featured a variety of popular series in its pages since its inception; ***The Best of Dark Horse Presents Volume One*** is a sampler trade paperback that features 128 pages of just what the title says, including Concrete, Black Cross, and others.($5.95)

DC

The Legion of Super-Heroes, on hiatus since the finale of The Magic Wars, returns in ***The New Legion of Super-Heroes #1.*** This series is set five years after the end of the old series, and a lot of things have changed; for instance, there's no longer a Legion and the Dominators control the Earth. Keith Giffen, Tom & Mary Bierbaum, and Al Gordon chronicle the re-formation of the Legion in this bleak future. ($1.75)

Shortly after the new Legion title debuts, a classic old Legion adventure, ***The Great Darkness Saga,*** will be reprinted in trade paperback. This story from ***Legion #290-294*** features art by Keith Giffen, Pat Broderick, and Larry Mahlstedt; Giffen and Mahlstedt have done several pages of new art for the book. Also included is a fold-out version of Giffen's classic Legion poster that has been unavailable for years now. ($17.95)

The Elemental War continues in ***Firestorm #91-93*** this fall; this series brings together Firestorm, Swamp Thing, Naiad, and the Red Tornado as the fire, water, earth, and air elementals. John Ostrander and Tom Mandrake present the tumultuous results of their meeting in the final installments of this four-part miniseries-within-a-series.



The fate of the elasticised Jimmy Olsen dominates the storylines in ***Superman*** this fall. Jimmy's old pals the Newsboy Legion make a return appearance in September to try to help Jimmy escape from the Project. In the pages of ***Action,*** the long-awaited Brainiac trilogy runs throughout the fall, focusing on major changes in Brainiac.

"A Lonely Place of Dying" alternates between ***Batman*** and ***The New Titans*** this fall; the five parter, which runs in ***Batman #440-442*** and ***New Titans #60-61,*** will lead to a major change in the Batman mythos (and yes, many are speculating that when this series is over, Batman will have a new Robin). It will also reunite Batman and Dick Grayson for the first time in many years.

Batman fans will have more than "A Lonely Place of Dying" to keep them happy this fall. The long-awaited ***Arkham Asylum*** hardcover graphic novel will finally see print in early October. This is a massive 120-page fully-painted story that takes Batman into Arkham Asylum, where the inmates have taken over. Grant Morrison and Dave McKean bring fans one of the most powerful Batman tales ever presented; ***Arkham Asylum*** will retail for $24.95.

A week later, the first issue of a new Batman title, ***Legends of the Dark Knight,*** debuts. This new series will feature "mini-series-within-a-series" storylines by a number of creators. Denny O'Neil and Ed Hannigan present the first storyline, "Shaman," which explores the early days of Batman's career.

Batman is featured in a unique item DC has slated for early November release: a pewter figurine. The 4" tall $25 figure is a Batman collectible aimed at the Batman fan, and will most likely be the first in a series of pewter figures released by DC. Each figure will come in its own display box.

And finally, in mid-November, DC releases the long-awaited ***Gotham by Gaslight*** one-shot. Brian Augustyn, Mike Mignola, and P. Craig Russell bring this alternate-continuity story to life. The prestige-format one-shot explores how things might have been if Bruce Wayne had lived a hundred years earlier--and if Jack the Ripper had decided to relocate to Gotham City. ($3.95)

Wild Dog is back in a 48-page special in early October; Max Allan Collins and Terry Beatty promise more of the violent, action-packed crime adventures that have defined the ***Wild Dog*** series since its beginning. ($2.50)

The final parts of the first Justice League America/Justice League Europe crossover will appear in September and early October. ***Justice League America #32*** and ***Justice League Europe #8*** will wrap up the Simon Stagg story, courtesy of regular series writers Keith Giffen and J.M. DeMatteis and artist Adam Hughes on ***JLA*** and Bart Sears on ***JLE.***

DC, a company that traditionally has offered very few posters, will be breaking patterns and giving readers *three* different posters this fall. Two of the posters will feature Batman (***Arkham Asylum*** by Dave McKean and ***Batman*** by Steve Rude) while the third will feature Steve Rude's interpretation of ***Superman.*** The pair of Steve Rude posters will serve as a sort of a lead-in to next year's ***World's Finest*** prestige-format series written by

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Gibbons and illustrated by Rude. ($8 per poster)

Superman received quite a tribute this October; DC has chosen ***Superman #1-4*** as the books to be reprinted in the first volume of a hardcover series of DC Archives. ***Superman Archives #1*** is a deluxe $39.95 hardcover reprinting these four prime Golden Age books in their entirety (ads, covers, and all). The books will be similar to the ***Marvel Masterworks*** series, but will present much older, harder-to-find material.

The Shadow is having a great fall; not only is his regular title ***The Shadow Strikes*** going like gangbusters this season, but he gets an annual and a crossover adventure with a fellow pulp hero. ***The Shadow Strikes! Annual #1***, on sale in mid-October, features two stories: "Crimson Dreams," a Hollywood adventure by Gerard Jones and Dan Spiegle; and "The Secret Life of Margo Lane," written by Jones but guest-illustrated by Luke McDonnell, who took some time from his Phantom schedule to do the story. Michael Kaluta contributes an all-too-rare Shadow cover for this $3.50 annual.

In early December, Doc Savage guest-stars with the Shadow in a four-part story that will appear in ***The Shadow Strikes! #5 & 6*** and ***Doc Savage #17 & 18.*** Both the Shadow and the Doc Savage teams will unite for this story, which features Gerard Jones and Mike Barr as writers and Rod Whigham and Eduardo Barretto as artists. This series will (obviously) continue into 1990 before its conclusion appears.

Since comics companies have to think ahead, you'll be seeing a few Christmas specials this fall. DC has one, ***Christmas With The Super-Heroes #2,*** that stars Superman Batman, Wonder Woman, Enemy Ace, Deadman, and more; John Byrne, Eric Shanower, Dave Gibbons, Paul Chadwick, and others bring you these Christmas-related stories in a 64-page $2.95 annual.

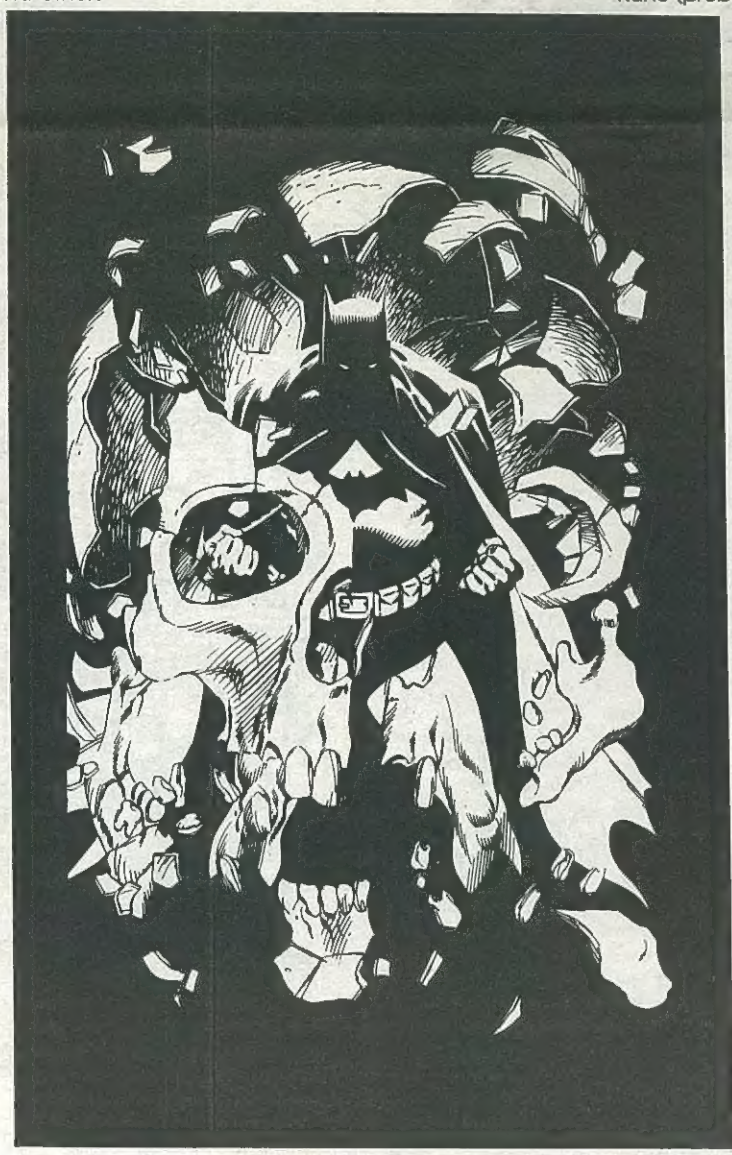
Green Lantern returns this fall in ***Green Lantern: Emerald Dawn #1***. Jim Owsley and Mark Bright, the team responsible for most of the Green Lantern segments in the late ***Action Comics Weekly,*** will produce this six-issue mini-series that presents the origin and history of Hal Jordan, the first Green Lantern of Earth. Once this series is completed in March, fans can look forward to a spring 1990 ***Green Lantern*** ongoing series by the same team. ($1)

Deadman is resurrected this fall (the comic series, not the character--he's still dead) is a two-issue prestige-format series subtitled ***Love After Death.*** The Mike Baron-Kelley Jones story introduces Deadman to a fellow dead-person--a circus aerialist who was murdered by her husband. Deadman and the aerialist fall in love--but her husband still stands in the way of her happiness, sending an army of freaks and monsters to keep them apart. Look for the first part in mid-November, and the second installment a month later.

DC goes operatic with ***The Ring #1,*** the debut issue of a four-issue limited series based on Richard Wagner's classic four-opera cycle "The Ring of the Nibelung." Roy Thomas and Gil Kane bring the classic opera to comics in prestige format. ***The Ring*** will be more appealing to comics fans than most opera-inspired comics, since the story itself is classic heroic fantasy inspired by Norse mythology. ($4.95)

DC will continue its ***Greatest Stories*** hardcover series this fall; instead of featuring an individual hero, however, this fall's theme will be ***The Greatest Super-Hero Team-Up Stories Ever Told.*** The 288-page $24.95 hardcover will feature Batman, Superman, Green Lantern, Flash, the Justice League, the Justice Society, Hawkman, Atom, Green Arrow, Aquaman, and many, many others in a collection that presents 15 stories from the past thirty-plus years.

The Warlord returns in November--but not in his own book. Instead, he'll guest-star in ***Green Arrow*** #27 & 28 in a two part story that brings the two heroes face-to-face for the first time. Mike Grell, who created the Warlord and revitalized Green Arrow, will write the story, which is illustrated by Dan Jurgens and Dick Giordano. ($1.25)



Eclipse

This fall, Eclipse is playing "catch-up," releasing a variety of projects that were initially announced for spring or summer publication. ***The Jack Kirby Treasury Volume Two*** ($9.95), ***Frank Frazetta's Complete Johnny Comet*** ($14.95), ***The Complete Pogo Comics Volume One*** ($7.95), ***Steve Ditko's Mysterious Traveller Graphic Album*** ($9.95), and ***The Wally Wood Sketchbooks*** ($9.95) should all appear in September and October, much to the delight of fans who kept looking for them earlier.

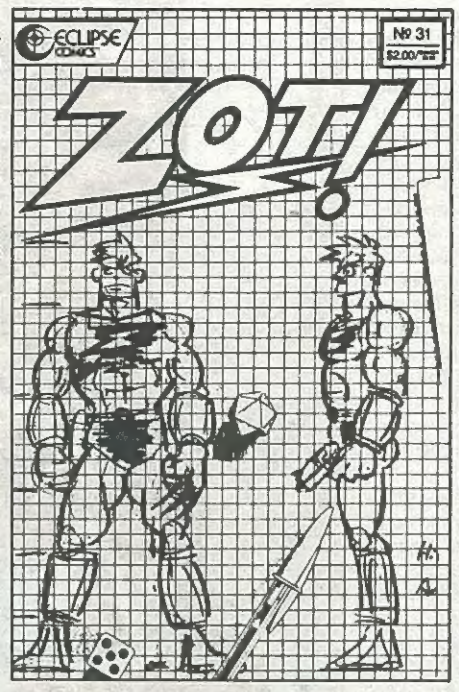
The ***Original Zot!: Book One*** and ***The Original Zot! Book Two*** should brighten the fall season for Zot! fans. These two trade paperbacks ($9.95 each) reprint in full color the first ten issues of Zot!; there will also be a pair of signed limited edition hardcovers ($40 each) of the books for fans who prefer these more expensive collectibles.

Eclipse is hoping to get its delayed ***Friendly Dictators*** card set featuring Bill Sienkiewicz artwork into comic shops in September or October; the set will follow up the successful ***Iran-Contra Scandal Trading Cards.*** Meanwhile, New Yorkers in particular will be interested in the ***Rotten to the Core Trading Cards Set*** by Mullaney, Gordon, and Bryant. These cards will feature all the New York mayoral candidates, county leaders, and other luminaries well known for being "rotten to the core." Both sets feature 36 cards for $8.95.

Black Terror, Beau Smith's, Chuck Dixon's, and Dan Brereton's "modern pulp" detailing the alternate-reality exploits of Ryan Delvecchio, a.k.a. the Black Terror, begins in September and continues through the fall. The three-issue prestige-format series is set in a future in which the Capone family has become one of the most powerful corporations in the world; furthermore, they're set to use their power to destroy the world's economy--and it's up to the Black Terror to stop them. The art on this painted limited series should appeal to all upscale-comics fans. ($3.95)

The Hobbit, delayed from summer release, helps kick off the fall at Eclipse. Chuck Dixon and David Wenzel are the talents who adapt Tolkien's famous fantasy novel to prestige-comics-form as a three-issue limited series. The prestige-format three issue series will appear on a bi-monthly schedule through the fall and into early winter. ($4.95)

If you like ***Appleseed,*** you'll love ***Dominion,*** Masamune Shirow's high-tech police action series. It's the story of a polluted world, a dedicated commander in the Tank Police, and a super-criminal who holds hostage the one being capable of purifying the Earth's atmosphere again. Look for the first issue in early November. ($2)



Jim Steranko's cover painting for ***The Return of the Valkyrie*** becomes a collector's lithograph this fall. This Steranko lithograph will be signed and limited to 750 numbered copies. Look for it in November, just in time for Christmas gift-giving.

Batman & Me, Bob Kane's autobiography, will be Eclipse's big item of the fall. This volume, set for early fall release, is available in four different formats: a trade paperback ($14.95), a hardcover ($39.95), a signed and numbered hardcover ($175) and a deluxe signed-and-numbered hardcover with a tipped in original illustration by Bob Kane (probably $495, although Eclipse's price structure on this book is so unusual in the comics field that there is no set price--earlier announcements of $250 as the list price were misleading and incorrect, much to the chagrin of ***CSN*** and store owners who took Eclipse's word on the price). If you want either the signed edition or the signed edition with illustration, talk to your comic shop owner. Since the edition with illustration is being limited to 200 copies, you can be sure that not every store will receive a copy.

Eclipse offers comic strip fans a new magazine this fall. ***Comics Express*** is a monthly 64-page magazine containing a month's worth of Berke Breathed's new strip "Outland" along with "Shoe" by Jeff MacNelly, "Ernie" by Bud Grace, "Mother Goose and Grimm" by Mike Peters, "The New Breed" by Associated Artists, "Bad Habits" by Norman Dog, and "Bizarro" by Pirraro. ***Comics Express*** joins ***Comics Revue and Comics Relief*** in offering monthly installments of your favorite comic strips. ($2.95)

Dirty Pair Book II continues through the fall, bringing fans new ***Dirty Pair*** adventures; for those who missed the first series, though ***Dirty Pair: Biohazards*** will reprint the entire first limited series in a single trade paperback. ($9.95)

Fly In My Eye, the Arcane Comix series, has become a part of Eclipse Comics. This fall, Eclipse will offer copies of the first Fly In My Eye volume from last spring along with October's ***Saturday Mourning: Fly In My Eye Volume Two.*** The horror series features work by Ramsey Campbell, Bill Wary, Gahan Wilson, Matt Howarth, Clive Barker, J.K. Potter, and others. ($9.95)

First Comics will be bringing their ***Classics Illustrated*** to comic shops in January; if you need something to tide you over until then, Eclipse has Hunt Emerson's ***Rime of the Ancient Mariner,*** offering a humorous version of Samuel Taylor Coleridge's famous poem. This irreverent look at a classic will be presented as a full-color $9.95 graphic album.

Eternity

Captain Harlock kicks off Eternity's fall schedule. The original series by Robert Gibson and Ben Dunn tells the story of space pirate Captain Harlock and his efforts to liberate an oppressed Earth in the future. ($2.50) There will also be a Ben Dunn ***Captain Harlock poster*** for fans who have some wall space let ($5.95)

Scimidar Book II wraps up with its fourth issue's release in October--but the new ***Scimidar Book II*** will debut in December, so fans of the adult series needn't worry. ($2.50) For those who missed the first ***Scimidar*** series, Eternity has relief in the form of a trade paperback reprinting all four issues by Jones, Davis, Val, and Baldwin. ($9.95)

Eternity offers ***Robotech II*** fans a permanent edition of the first four ***Robotech II: The Sentinels*** issues in September. The ***Robotech II: The Sentinels hardcover*** will feature the first four issues plus production sketches and pin-ups by the Waltrip brothers. This hardcover will not be offered in softcover any earlier than the spring of 1990. ($20) Of course, the regular ***Robotech II: The Sentinels*** title and the twelve-issue limited series ***Robotech II: The Malcontent Uprisings*** remain on their monthly schedule through the fall as well. ($1.95)

Archie Reese, and Lorenzo, the ***Dinosaurs For Hire,*** earn their second trade paperback in October. ***Dinosaurs Rule*** will feature the stories that originally appeared in ***Dinosaurs For Hire #4-6.*** ($5.95)

Jack The Ripper, a limited series by Balfour and Mendoza, brings two American detectives to London in an effort to assist Scotland Yard in solving the Ripper murders. This limited series, set for October debut, shouldn't be confused with Aircel's ***Ripper,*** which is a Barry Blair series already mentioned in this special. ($2.25)

Earl Stanley Gardner's and Mel Keefer's Perry Mason comic strips are reprinted in ***Perry Mason: Nine Cases of Murder.*** The trade paperback reprints nine classic Perry Mason adventures from 1951 and 1952 in a 192-page $14.95 edition.

What can we say about ***Monster Frat House***? Well, it's exactly what it sounds like--monsters, college hijinks, and fraternities. In this case, the monsters want to form their own fraternity at Transylvania University, since no other fraternity on campus will have anything to do with them. This Halloween-inspired one-shot will appear, appropriately enough, in October. Madman supplies the cover painting. ($2.25)

Classic science fiction comics tales re-

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ceive a lot of attention this fall; in addition to the AC classic sf title already announced in this ***CSN Special***, Eternity has ***Out of This World***, a classic sf one-shot reprinting the work of Everett Raymond Kintsler and others.

Plan Nine From Outer Space is famous as a film, but it's never made the transition to comics. Eternity will correct that in November, though, with the publication of their ***Plan 9 From Outer Space Movie Adaptation*** by Wooley, Timmons, and McCorkindale. The 64-page graphic album adapts the all-time bad cult-favorite film to comics. Look for this to be the first in a series of film-adaptations from Eternity; ***Blood Feast*** will be the next volume in the series. ($4.95) Plan 9 fans might also want to check out ***Plan 9 From Outer Space: The Original Uncensored Screenplay***, also due from Eternity in November; this 128-page volume will publish for the first time the full screenplay, including scenes not used in the film. ($9.95)

Public Enemy, a new Eternity series that begins in November, joins other "genre" reprint series like Torrid Affairs and Spicy tales. This time, the theme is crime--"true crime" comics, to be exact. The first two sixty-page issues will feature material by L.B. Cole, A.C. Hollingsworth, and others. ($3.95)

Fantagor

Fantagor's ***Jeremy Brood*** graphic novel, scheduled for late summer release, is running a bit late; look for this graphic novel, reprinting hard-to-find Richard Corben material, to appear in September or October. ($9.95)

Den continues this fall; ***Den #9***, an October release, features a story by Strnad and Corben and an Alex Nino back-up. Den is one of the relatively few Corben projects intended for audiences of all ages. ($2)

Fantagraphics

Fantagraphics' reprintings of Vaughn Bode's comics material continues with ***Vaughn Bode's Deadbone*** in September. This 68-page book will present all the Deadbone strips, most of which have been shot from the original pencils for the highest possible print quality. There will be both a softcover ($7.95) and a hardcover ($29.95) edition of ***Vaughn Bode's Deadbone***, although the hardcover will have a relatively small print run.

Art deco is a movement; ***Art D'Ecco*** is a comic. Andrew and Roger Langridge are the creators for this story about the intrepid Art D'Ecco and his sidekick Gump, a pyramid-shaped lump of flesh. As you might imagine, their adventures sometimes wander into the surreal... as you'll have a chance to find out in late September. ($2.50)

Fantagraphics' ***Collected Jules Feiffer*** continues in October with the release of the second volume, highlighting his strip Munro. This strip is seen by many as the "missing link" between the time when Feiffer ended his association with Will Eisner and began his weekly strip in the Village Voice. ***The Collected Feiffer Volume Two*** will be offered in softcover ($9.95), hardcover ($39.95), and signed hardcover ($45).

Art from MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS 40

If you enjoy the anthropomorphic adventures of the ***Critters*** crew, then you'll probably find ***Hard-Boiled Animal Comics #1***, an October release, to be your cup of tea as well. This one-shot features a variety of strips by Bob Vojtko, George Erling, Mark Armstrong, Rudi Frank, and others. ($2.50)

Birthright, a new three-issue limited series by Steve Gallacci, picks up where the two Birthright serials in ***Critters*** left off. The book will also include a recap of the first two serials for those who missed them. ($2)

One of Fantagraphics' most ambitious projects is ***The Complete Little Nemo In Slumberland***, a color reprinting of all the Winsor McKay strips that have become a part of comics history. The second volume of this prestigious series is set for late October release; it includes some of the most famous segments from the strip, including the "walking-bed" story. ($29.95)

In November, Fantagraphics unveils the first issue of magazine that they hope to make their "central comics magazine for the 1990's." Each issue of ***Graphic Story Monthly*** will feature a long chapter by a top international talent plus shorter pieces by other well-known creators. The first issue will lead off with Jacques Tardi's adaptation of Leo Malet's detective novel Fog Over Tolbiac Bridge; there'll also be material by Ward Kimball, Craig Maynard, Rick Geary, and a rare Winsor McKay page from a strip that no one's even heard of! ($2.95)

Usagi Yojimbo fans can keep adding to their bookshelves; the latest ***Usagi Yojimbo*** volume, ***Usagi Yojimbo Book Three***, should be in comic shops by the end of November. This volume reprints ***Usagi Yojimbo #7-12***; it also included a special 6-page story featuring Leonardo of the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. ($10.95)

Marvel

Marvel's major event this fall is ***Acts of Vengeance***, a major super-being slugfest that will play a major or minor role in over a half-a-hundred comics throughout the season. The action centers on the various Avengers family books--***Avengers, Avengers West Coast, Avengers Spotlight, Captain America, Thor, Iron Man, Quasar***, plus ***Damage Control II*** and ***Fantastic Four***. Other books that are going to be involved include ***The Incredible Hulk, The New Mutants, Wolverine, Alpha Flight, Dr. Strange, Moon Knight, Punisher War Journal, Cloak and Dagger, X-Factor, X-Men***, all three ***Spider-Man*** books, and ***Power Pack***. The premise is pretty simple (and action-packed): the super-villains are tired of losing to the same heroes, so they compile a superhero database and "swap off," taking on someone else's nemesis. In some cases, the heroes are severely over-powered. At the same time, the government is so concerned about the devastation caused by super-battles that they're considering setting up a super-being registration act similar to the mutant registration act of a few years back. By the time you read this, the Acts of Vengeance storylines will already be underway in many of the core titles, and they'll continue throughout the rest of the year. Your local comic shop should have a complete chart and a checklist-card to help you keep track of things.

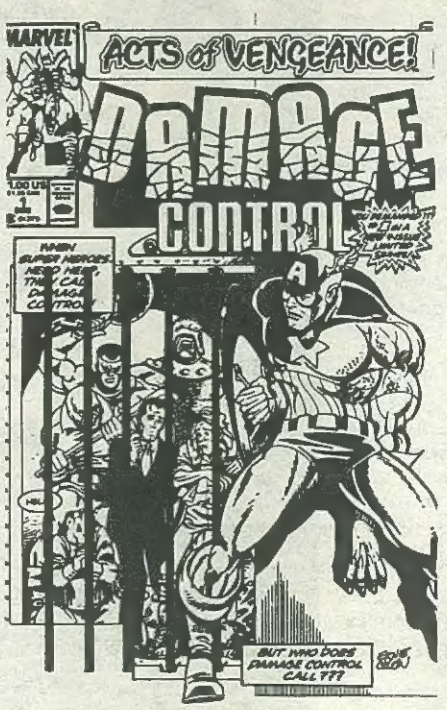
Wolverine will get a lot of attention in the next few months; Archie Goodwin and John Byrne took over the book for a six-issue run beginning in August, and fan reaction has been overwhelmingly positive. Look for Wolverine in costume a good deal more in this series, doing the things that Wolverine fans have been clamoring for. ($1.50)

Electric Undertow brings back ***Strikeforce: Morituri*** in an upscale bookshelf format. This five-issue limited series takes place ten years after the end of the war with the Horde; the Morituri members have gone their own ways and things seem tranquil. Then some force begins murdering humans for unknown reasons, and the Morituri team discovers that they're likely to be the next targets. Furthermore, a ghost from the Morituri past is paying visits on some of the living team members--but for what purpose? Jim Hudnall and Mark Bagley detail the developments beginning in September and running into early 1990.

One of the most popular X-Men stories of all times was "Days of Future Past," the two-parter that originally appeared in ***X-Men #141 and #142***. This two-part story is being reprinted in an ***X-Men: Days of Future Past*** bookshelf comic in mid-September. The $3.95 book will feature a new Jackson Guice cover.

Longshot, the series that introduced Arthur Adams to eager fans everywhere, is reprinted in trade paperback in September. As hard as these six issues are to find, this trade paperback should be a welcome sight once it hits the racks. ($16.95)

Snakeyes is the focus of ***GI Joe #94-96*** appearing in September, October, and November. This 3-part story will give readers the first look at Snake-Eyes' face, and will also bring about some major changes in the Joes. ($1)



The Marvel Comic that should have been but wasn't, ***Fighting American***, gets a Marvel-Masterworks-style hardcover printing in November. ***Fighting American*** was actually a Captain-America-style patriotic hero created by Joe Simon and Jack Kirby for another cover--but now Marvel has acquired the rights to publish all the ***Fighting American*** stories under the Marvel imprint in this $35.95 hardcover.

What If? has been popular since its inception early this year, but you can expect What If? #7 to be more popular than any issue to date. "What If Wolverine Was an Agent of SHIELD?" is the concept for this issue, and Jim Valentino and Rob Liefeld explore the question in a book that X-Men fans will want to be sure they don't miss. Two months later, the X-Men are featured in ***What If? #9***, "What If the New X-Men Had Died In Their First Mission?" Roy Thomas and Rich Buckler bring fans the tragic aftermath of that story. ($1.25)

Roger Rabbit returns to comics in late September in the original graphic novel ***The Resurrection of Doom***. This new work by Bob Foster and Dan Spiegle brings back Roger, Jessica, Marooon Cartoons, Judge Doom, and Eddie Valiant; with ***Who Framed Roger Rabbit?*** set for video release just about the time this graphic novel appears, there should be a lot of interest in this $8.95 adventure.

Spider-Man becomes more powerful than ever in the three Spidey titles this fall. The action begins in ***Spectacular Spider-Man #158***, on sale in late September; in this issue, Spider-Man gets the Captain Universe powers and becomes the mightiest hero in the Marvel universe. This ongoing storyline will also tie in to Acts of Vengeance. ($1)

The ***Marvel Masterworks*** series has four big offerings this year; the first, ***Incredible Hulk #1-6***, should be appearing around the time you read this. The second volume, reprinting ***Avengers #11-20***, is set for early October release. The third, reprinting ***Spider-Man #21-30*** plus the first ***Amazing Spider-Man Annual***, is due in early November. The final new volume this year, reprinting ***X-Men #94-100*** plus ***Giant-Size X-Men #1***, is scheduled to appear shortly after Thanksgiving. The ***Marvel Masterworks*** price-tag hasn't risen since the series' introduction in 1987, making this one of the best comics values on the market--and a great idea for Christmas gift-giving.

Marvel adds two new shirts to its growing

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garment line: ***The Avengers*** by Kieron Dwyer and ***Spider-Man*** by Todd McFarlane. Both shirts feature original illustrations done just for the shirt; each is priced at $12.95, and should be available in early October.

She-Hulk's new team debuts in October; that's when Steve Gerber and Bryan Hitch take over the book. Since Gerber is involved, you know you can expect the ever-popular Howard the Duck to guest-star--and he does, the very first month Gerber pens ***She-Hulk***'s exploits! ($1.50)

Marvel's new SF project, ***Open Space***, kicks off with a 64-page bookshelf-format first issue in early October. This is a "shared universe" series with various prominent writers creating new stories set in a common sf framework. This series should appeal to both comics and sf fans, and will be a double delight to fans of both genres. ($4.95)

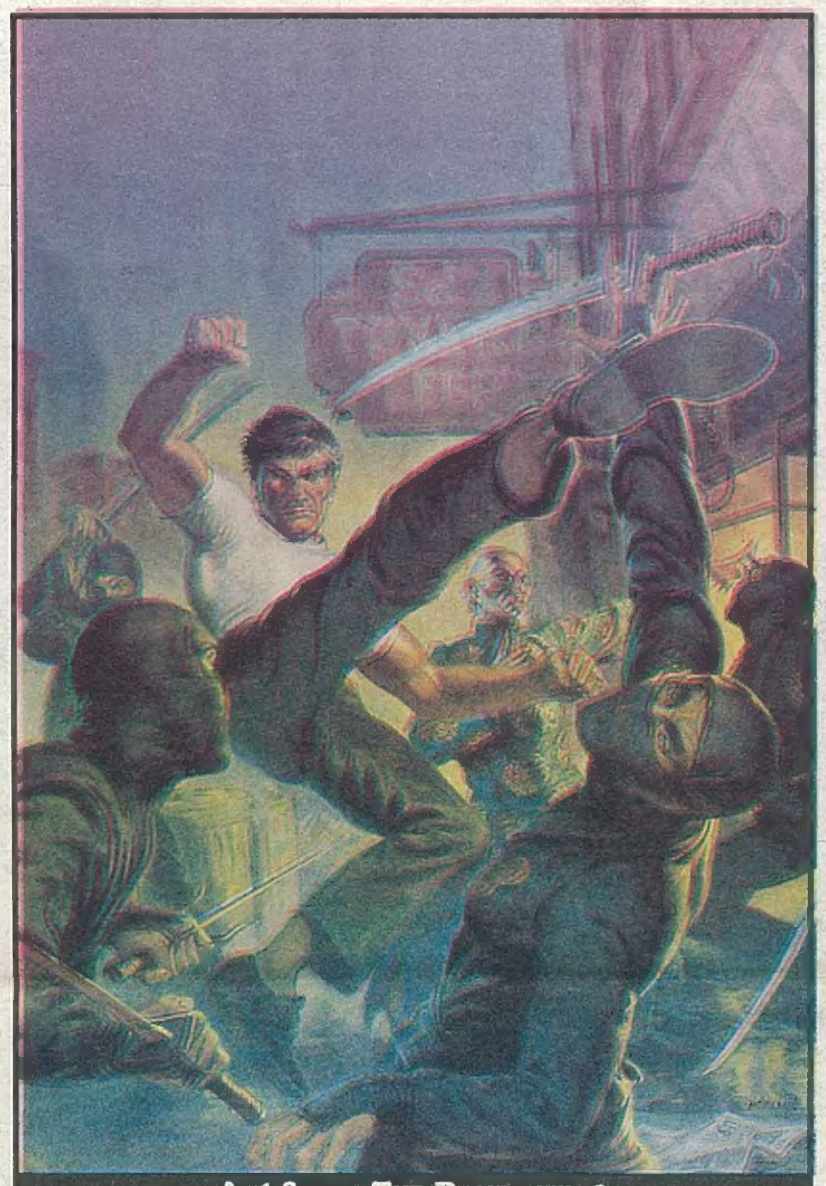
The Squadron Supreme, featured in their own limited series in 1986 and 1987, star in a sequel to that series in October. The graphic novel by the original Squadron Supreme team of Mark Gruenwald and Paul Ryan pits the Squadron against the powers of Nth Man, the energy-absorbing being from the ***Project Pegasus*** trade paperback. ($9.95)

Jim Hudnall's ESPers series gets a new life and a new title in October. ***Interface***, an Epic series, continues the story of people with psychic powers who have formed a somewhat shaky alliance against a mysterious conspiracy. The series is fully painted by British artist Paul Johnson. ($1.95)

The Hulk faces some pretty serious problems in a four issue miniseries-within-a-series that begins in October's ***Hulk #364***. In "Countdown," the Hulk is poisoned and he has to find the person responsible for his poisoning before daybreak--because once the sun rises, he'll revert to Bruce Banner and die. This series will bring back some of the Hulk's most powerful villains as well as an all-new opponent. Walt Simonson does the covers; Peter David, Jeff Purves, and Marie Severin handle the interiors. ($1)

Clive Barker has two Marvel projects set to begin this fall. ***Hellraiser #1*** debuts in August; this series features new stories by a variety of top comics talents, all set in the decadent, surreal universe portrayed in Barker's ***Hellraiser*** and ***Hellbound***. This is a 64-page-per-issue bookshelf format series on a quarterly schedule, and major talents like Jan Strnad, Berni Wrightson, Ted McKeever, John Bolton, and Clive Barker himself are preparing stories for upcoming issues. ($4.95)

The second Barker series, now re-scheduled for November release, is ***Nightbreed***. This series is based on the upcoming Clive Barker film--but once the series adapts the film, it will move into new adventures of a man who encounters--and joins--a race of monstrous beings living in the Canadian wilderness. Wagner, Grant, and Baikie bring ***Nightbreed*** to light in this $1.95 deluxe-format series.



Art from THE DESTROYER 3

If you're a pre-hero Marvel Comics fan, then you'll be thrilled with October's ***Monster Masterworks***, a trade paperback reprinting some classic monster and macabre stories by Kirby, Ditko, Everett, Heck, Ayers, and others. Look for it in October, just in time for Halloween. ($12.95)

Just in case you overlooked our mention of it in the Acts of Vengeance explanation earlier, ***Damage Control*** is coming back in a second four-issue limited series, ***Damage Control II***. This new series, which begins in September, presents Damage Control with the challenging job of cleaning up after the Acts of Vengeance battles. ($1)

Moebius fans have quite a fall ahead of them; not only is Marvel offering Moebius' ***Lt. Blueberry*** Western series to American fans for the first time, but they're also giving them ***The Art of Moebius***, a deluxe graphic novel format edition of some of Moebius best art throughout his lengthy career--including some pieces never before seen. ($14.95)

Yuppies From Hell certainly isn't a typical Marvel comic. Created by Barbara Slate, it's a book aimed at women and readers who don't normally give comics a second look--but comics fans who enjoy more than superhero books will want to take a look at it as well. It's an amusing and satirical look at yuppies on the quest for the perfect lifestyle. ($2.95)

Marvel's humor title returns on its twice-yearly schedule in November. ***What The--?! #6*** pokes some timely fun at Acts of Vengeance, Alpha Flight, the Pulverizer, swampy heroes, and strange haircuts in its 32 pages. ($1)

The Shadowline Saga books have been cancelled, but the Shadowline concept lives on in ***Critical Mass***, a 64-page seven-issue bookshelf format limited series bringing all of the Shadowline heroes together to battle one common foe. Kevin O'Neill, Bill Sienkiewicz, Gray Morrow, Klaus Janson, Mike Mignola, and Mark Badger are among the contributors to the first issue, which is scheduled for early November release. ($4.95)

The unlikely team of ***Cloak and Dagger*** and ***Power Pack*** co-star in a graphic novel known, appropriately enough, as the ***Cloak & Dagger/Power Pack Graphic Novel***. Bill Mantlo, Sal Velluto, and Mark Farmer present this story that also focuses on the plight of teenage runaways. Look for it in mid-November. ($7.95)

Marshal Law returns in ***Crime & Punishment: Marshal Law Taks Manhattan***, a Thanksgiving special that has the good Marshal chasing after the Persecutor. His mission introduces him to some "super-heroes" who seem very, very familiar to Marvel comics fans.... ***Marshal Law***'s Pat Mills and Kevin O'Neill are joined by inker Mark Nelson, fresh off the ever-popular ***Aliens*** series. ($4.95)

The second Moebius super-hero poster in an ongoing series appears in November; this time, fans get a chance to see Moebius' interpretation of ***Iron Man***. Other posters include ***Nick Fury and Wolverine*** by Howard Chaykin, ***Marshal Law*** by Kevin O'Neill, and the ***Avengers*** by Paul Ryan and Tom Palmer. All of them should be available before Thanksgiving. ($4.95 each)

The final holiday gifts from Marvel are two non-comics items. The ***Wolverine Bisque*** ($39.95) and the ***Marvel Heroes PVC Figures*** ($3.99 each) are scheduled to be in comic shops by Thanksgiving--look for these 3-D collectibles to disappear very, very quickly, though, since no extras were made. You might want to reserve copies of each at your local comic shop, just to be safe.

First

Dreadstar celebrates his 50th issue with a prestige-format gala in September. This issue wraps up all the storylines that have been introduced since Peter David and Angel Medina took over the book; it will also include an installment of Jim Starlin's and Daina Graziunas' serial "Pawns." ($3.95)

Grimjack has a great fall in store: the ongoing ***Grimjack*** comic will feature a four-issue storyline entitled "The Demon Wars" by John Ostrander and guest artist Steve Pugh. This storyline will tie into the events of the November-slated Grimjack graphic Novel ***Demon Knight*** (this Ostrander-Henry graphic novel is the reason Flint Henry needed a guest artist to handle the ongoing series for a few issues). The $8.95 graphic novel is a stand-alone story, but it will have extra appeal for those who've read the Demon Wars series. At the same time the graphic novel is released in November, there'll also be a ***Grimjack poster*** featuring the Flint Henry cover to ***Grimjack #61***. ($5.95)

Nexus is having his month in the spotlight as well; in October, Nexus has two monthly series, a spin-off, a trade paperback, and a one-shot on the First schedule! ***Nexus*** and ***Nexus Legends*** are the regular series. ***Hammer of God***, a four-issue limited series by Mike Baron, Roger Salick, and Steve Epting, is the spin-off. It stars Judah Macabee in his first solo series.

The ***Next Nexus trade paperback*** reprints Mike Baron's and Steve Rude's ***Next Nexus*** series from last year in one handsome 112-page volume. This series sets up a lot of the events that are integral to the current ***Nexus*** storyline. ($9.95)

Finally, the ***Nexus Files*** is a one-shot that features everything readers need to know about Nexus' world, his supporting cast, and more. The book also includes "Mike Baron's Non-Linear Guide to the Nexus Universe," and a new Steve Rude "Nexus family portrait." ($4.50)

The early issues of ***Sable*** are slated for reprinting beginning in November. ***Mike Grell's Sable #1***, published in the Nexus Legends format, will reprint in chronological order the stories that first introduced Jon Sable to comics fans. ($1.75)

This fall, First Fiction collectors will get to read the final installments of one First Fiction project and the opening chapter of another. ***Squalor***, Stefan Petruccha's and Tom Sutton's story of a man who can move outside of time and affect reality, will run through the fall. In November, ***Tong City Blues #1*** becomes the fourth First Fiction title. Frank Henkl, Tony Akins, and Paul Mounts are the creative team for this future sf-mystery-action tale of assassination, genetic experimentation, and religious fanaticism in California of the year 2091. ($2.75) Incidentally, if you missed the first First Fiction series, ***Twilight Man***, First is releasing it as a trade paperback in late November. ($9.95)

4Winds

In September, 4Winds brings a American audiences an English translation of Balcarce & Zanotto's ***Downtime***, a grim sf novel in which people are pawns in a "computer game" played by powerful super-computers. It's an interesting new twist on the post-apocalypse theme. ($8.98)

4Winds' Masters Series kicks off in November with ***Attu***, a graphic novel by comics talent Sam Glanzman. Attu is an sf-adventure graphic novel telling the story of a primitive catapulted into the heart of a dying galaxy. The graphic novel will have three editions: softcover

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($9.95), hardcover ($14.95), and signed and limited edition hardcover ($24.95).

In December, the long-awaited premier volume of ***Wilderness,*** the Tim Truman historical biography of Simon Girty, appears in three volumes. This is a major work from Truman, who has devoted much of the past two years in preparation for this tour de force.

Gladstone

Gladstone will be wrapping up its publication of Disney titles this fall and early this coming winter. Look for them to release double-sized issues of their Disney titles, each priced at $1.95. There'll be some new material by Don Rosa and William Van Horn, some classic Carl Barks stories, and more. Also, look for Gladstone to release a heaping helping of Gladstone Graphic Albums and Gladstone Giant Albums in the last few months. ($5.95-$11.95)

Greater Mercury

This company's big hit is ***Grips;*** unfortunately, Tim Vigil (the artist who made ***Grips*** such a hot commodity in 1986) isn't doing anything with the book now, so its appeal has been lessened. Grips still appears in two titles ***(Grips*** and ***Grips Adventures),*** and he's just as brutal as ever.

Innovation

A great many of the projects Innovation had originally announced for summer release haven't appeared yet; look for a lot of "catch-up" from Innovation this fall.

As far as new fall projects are concerned, the biggest news from Innovation is their addition of a top-notch title formerly published by Comico. Mike Barr's ***MAZE Agency*** has found a new home beginning in late September. This quality "play-fair" mystery title features a lovely detective and a crime writer who unite their deductive abilities to solve some pretty puzzling cases. ***MAZE Agency #9,*** scheduled for October release, will guest-star one of the best-known detectives of all time, Ellery Queen. Oh, yeah--fan-fave Adam Hughes is remaining with ***MAZE Agency*** as artist! ($1.95)

Innovation's ***Vampire Lestat*** series is running late due to the original artist's departure from the title. This series, adapting the Vampire Chronicles by best-selling author Anne Rice, is still on Innovation's publishing schedule, though. In addition, Innovation has another vampire comic, ***Scarlet Kiss: The Vampyre,*** planned for October release (just in time for Halloween).

Innovation will release two posters featuring their most popular characters in October. Matt Thompson and Randy Elliot are the artists on the ***Legends of the Stargrazers poster*** ($4.95); Ron Lim and Bill Anderson offer their version of the ***Hero Alliance*** ($4.95). Both posters are 24" x 36", larger than most comics-related posters.

Innovation's Comics on Disk series hasn't gotten off to a great start (in fact, none of the already-announced titles have appeared), but the company is confident that production on these "comics on disk" will begin soon. ***Cyberpunk*** is slated for "Comics on Disk" treatment in November, and should be available in two formats: Atari ST and Amiga. ($19.95) That same month, the two-issue ***Cyberpunk*** series will be reprinted in one prestige-format volume that will also feature artwork not seen in the two-issue series. ($6.95)

The Group LaRue, Mike Baron's story of a group of gamers who discover that their games are all too real, will be reprinted in trade paperback in November. ($7.95) Also scheduled for reprinting in a single volume are ***Legends of the Stargrazers #1-3*** ($9.95), ***Media-Starr #1-3*** ($8.95), and ***MAZE Agency #1-4*** ($10.95).

The Justice Machine Volume II #1 marks the debut of the Justice Machine's ongoing series under the Innovation banner. Ellis, Banks, and Gustovich are the creative team behind these new adventures. The first issue pits the Justice Machine against the threat of...mid-term exams (?). ($1.95)

Collectors of Walt Kelly will be excited to hear about Innovation's plan to publish a Walt Kelly holiday book. ***Walt Kelly's Santa Claus Adventures*** is a 68-page full-color prestige-format comic that will feature ten different Kelly Christmas stories. ($6.95)

Jademan

Jademan adds a new title this fall: ***Blood Sword Dynasty,*** picking up after the events of ***Blood Sword.*** ***Blood Sword Dynasty*** will be a standard 32-page comic priced at $1.25, and should debut in September. In November, Jademan will offer a 68-page sampler entitled ***Jademan Collection #1*** ($2.50).

Kitchen Sink

Kitchen Sink's series of Ernie Bushmiller Nancy collections continues in September with ***How Sluggo Survives.*** These volumes are theme-oriented rather than chronological reprintings. Each Bushmiller edition is available as a $7.95 trade paperback and a $25 hardcover.

Yarn Man, a member of the Megaton Man cast, gets his own one-shot in September. Donald Simpson is the creator behind this story featuring a very Thing-ish hero in his meeting with the Origin League as he battles Bad Guy's brother, Bulky Guy. ($2)

In October, Kitchen Sink introduces a new collection of French humor comics, ***French Ticklers.*** The first issue features material by Moebius, LeLong, Benet, Goossens, and more. ($2)

Jack "Jaxon" Jackson's ***Secret of San Saba,*** a serial that originally ran in ***Death Rattle,*** is collected in trade paperback format in October. The book is a historical science fantasy about the descent of a giant slug from outer space and the Indian religion that grows up around this slug's arrival. There will be some new material in this volume, including three new story pages. ($12.95--also available as a signed and numbered hardcover for $25)

The Third ***Omaha the Cat Dancer Collection*** reprints ***Omaha the Cat Dancer #7-10*** in the same two formats used for the earlier volumes. The softcover is priced at $14.95; the signed and numbered hardcover is $27.95, and features a tipped in color plate not available in the other edition. As always, ***Omaha the Cat Dancer*** is intended for adults only.

Kitchen Sink is lowering the price of two of its best-known Will Eisner books for the fans who just couldn't afford them before. ***Signal From Space,*** a 136-page graphic novel, will be available as a hardcover for only $6.95. ***Will Eisner Color Treasury*** will carry a new pricetag of $5.95 in hardcover. Fans might want to add both books to their Christmas lists...

Longmeadow Press

The name may of the publisher be unfamiliar (they're a publishing division of Waldenbooks), but the name of the publication should be quite familiar to all comics fans. ***The Complete Frank Miller Batman*** is a 320-page full-color leatherbound hardcover collecting all four issues of ***Dark Knight,*** all four issues of ***Batman: Year One,*** and Miller's first Batman story, "Wanted: Santa Claus--Dead Or Alive." This $29.95 edition is a quality book, featuring silver gilding on the page edges, ribbon markers, and original cover and endpaper designs by Dean Motter. Dick Giordano writes the introduction for the handsome edition. Look for it in November.

Mirage

Mirage has moved several projects around on its schedules, so a number of items announced in the spring and summer previews are now slated for fall release.

The biggest change affects ***Commandosaurs,*** the four-issue limited series by Steve Bissette and Peter Laird. Originally announced as a standard comics series, ***Commandosaurs*** will instead be published as a series of 10" x 15" comics ($3.50). The contents remain the same: ***Commandosaurs*** is the story of a battle between technologically advanced dinosaurs, their uncivilized cousins the Terrorsaurs, and the barbaric Ghellies. At the same time the oversized series begins, Mirage will also release a semi-weekly series of Commandosaurs mini-comics featuring all-new material. These 75¢ comics are intended as a complement for the oversized series--and of course, fans are going to want to keep an eye out for both.

Rick Veitch is the guest artist on a three-issue Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles series that appears in ***Turtles #24-26*** this fall. This storyline pits the Turtles against the menace of Bloodsucker. ($1.75)

Shellshock, a trade paperback reprinting 19 Turtles stories by a variety of artists, has been rescheduled for November release ($12.95). Likewise, ***Puma Blues Book Two*** has also been rescheduled; this reprinting of ***Puma Blues #13-19*** will also appear in November ($8.95).

NBM

Vic & Blood is NBM's major project for the fall; this full-color graphic novel reprints the Harlan Ellison/Richard Corben adaptations of Ellison's Boy and His Dog stories. This post-apocalyptic sf tale traces the existence of a boy and his dog as they try to find food--and women--in a desolate land. ($8.95 softcover, $12.95 hardcover, $35 signed hardcover)

New Comics

In October, New will release the third issue of their horror anthology ***Asylum.*** John Bolton will contribute a story for this issue, based on a script by James Robert Smith. ($1.95)

The Master continues Chuck Dixon and Val Mayerik's ***Young Master*** series--only he's not so young any more, and his adventures are moving to the high seas (and eventually to a new land). ($1.95)

Northstar

Northstar will continue their reprinting of the early issues of ***The Cases of Sherlock Holmes*** in trade paperback. In October, they've scheduled the second volume in the series, reprinting ***Cases of Sherlock Holmes #6-9.*** ($8.95 softcover, $29.95 hardcover)

Faust, David Quinn's and Tim Vigil's violent adult series, continues this fall. In September, Northstar will also offer a second Faust t-shirt, featuring Faust's chest emblem ($13.95), and a Faust poster reprinting the cover of ***Faust #2*** ($7.95).

In November, ***Chaingang*** leads off the Northstar line-up. This graphically violent series based on the "star" of Rex Miller's horror novel ***Slob*** will be illustrated by artist Peter Gross, whose art made ***Empire Lanes*** so enjoyable. Each issue focuses on Chaingang's hunt for human victims--sort of a comics "splatter film." ($2.50)

NOW

Little Monsters is a comics adaptation of the upcoming Fred Savage-Howie Mandel film. Look for the three-part adaptation to begin in late September and continue through the fall; plans for a continuing series based on the film have been put on hiatus.

The Terminator's comics run ends in October with the release of ***Terminator #17***--but a month later, we'll see a new Terminator limited series that is closer to the mood of the original film. ***The Terminator: The Burning Earth*** by Fortier and Ross picks up ten years after the end of the first series, and focuses on John Connor's final assault against the Terminators. ($1.75)

Green Hornet remains NOW's biggest hit of the year; this monthly series by Fortier, Butler, and Mowry continues to tell the history of the Green Hornet legend. November's issue will, at long last, introduce the new Green Hornet and Kato, leading into all-new exploits this winter. ($1.75)

Now is offering a small number of trade paperbacks reprinting ***Slimer #1-3;*** these books are produced for the British market, but 5000 copies are being made available to comic shops for fans who don't want to miss out on this collectible. ($5.95)

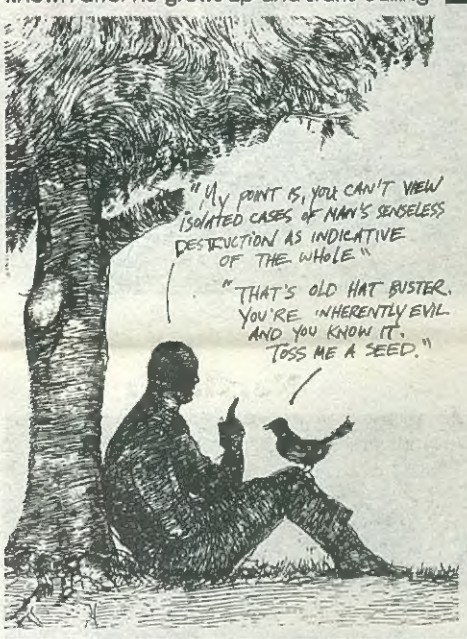
FALL PREVIEW!

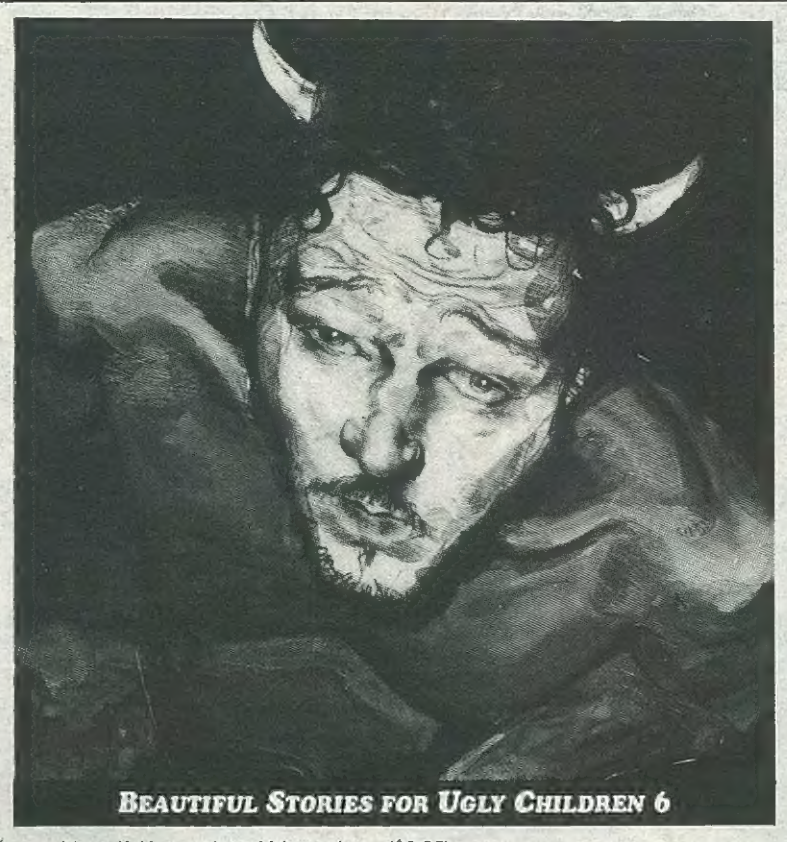
Now's must unusual release this fall is November ***What Now Caper Video,*** which is a one-hour VHS videotape detailing the step-by-step production of a color comic book. The video will also include clips from ***The Real Ghostbusters*** and ***Speed Racer,*** plus an animated ***Ralph Snart*** short. ($39.95)

Piranha

Piranha gives fans ***The Score*** beginning in September; ***The Score*** is Gerard Jones and Mark Badger's four-issue prestige-format series set in a near-future Hollywood now divided into two cities, one populated by the "haves" and one by the "have-nots." Phillip Sand, a fading rock star, holds the secret the reveals the ugly interrelationship of Old and New Hollywood--but he can't remember! Furthermore, the powers in the city's underworld want to make sure he doesn't have a chance to remember. ($4.95)

William Messner-Loebs and Sam Kieth bring a unique perspective to Greek philosophy in ***Epicurus the Sage.*** The first volume, scheduled for October in this continuing series tells the story Persephone's abduction by Hades. The book will star Epicurus, his sidekick Plato, and his faithful student Alex, who will become better known after he grows up and starts calling himself Alexander of Macedon. ($9.95)


"MY POINT IS, YOU CAN'T VIEW ISOLATED CASES OF MAN'S SENSELESS DESTRUCTION AS INDICATIVE OF THE WHOLE."
"THAT'S OLD HAT BUSTER. YOU'RE INHERENTLY EVIL AND YOU KNOW IT. TOSS ME A SEED."



Beautiful Stories For Ugly Children creators Dave Louapre and Dan Sweetman move into ***The Wasteland*** this November. The Wasteland isn't a continuation of the DC horror series entitled ***Wasteland,*** editor Mark Nevelow is quick to point out; this is instead a collection of offbeat, surreal, dark-humor full-page cartoons that feature the twisted humor that has made Louapre's and Sweetman's ***Beautiful Stories*** Piranha's most successful series to date. (And of course, ***Beautiful Stories*** will continue on its monthly schedule through the fall as well, warping the sensibilities of its readers while bringing them a few chuckles.)

Quality

Quality's ***Judge Dredd Crime Files*** series is running late, but should debut this fall. These books feature popular Judge Dredd material by Brian Bolland, Brendan McCarthy, and Ian Gibson in high-quality format. ($5.95 a volume)

Nemesis the Warlock is reprinted in black and white this fall courtesy of Quality; tentative plans call for the reprinting to begin in October. This series is produced by Pat Mills and Kevin O'Neill, so ***Marshal Law*** fans might want to check it out.

In November, Quality adds ***Psi Judge Anderson*** to their schedule. This limited series, published in black and white, reprints the very popular Brett Ewins illustrated stories featuring The Four Judges of the Apocalypse.

RAK

Thundermace 1-4 have proven pretty hard for new fans to locate, so RAK is reprinting all four issues in one trade paperback in September. This $6 book will also include four new pages of illustrations and a detailed map of Thundermace's world.

Revolutionary

Revolutionary Comics' current plans call for them to feature the story of Def Leppard in ***Rock and Roll Comics #5,*** the story of the Rolling Stones in #6, and the story of the Who in #7. These plans are subject to change, however. At press-time, legal action has stopped the distribution of reorders of ***Rock and Roll Comics #4,*** so the schedule for future issues is up in the air.

Rip Off

Guy Colwell's series ***Doll*** is collected in trade paperback in September; this adults only volume is the adults-only story of a lifelike doll and two men who would do anything to possess her. The $9.95 trade paperback will include material not featured in the original series.

Fire Sale, an October release, is a benefit book for Larry Todd, whose home was destroyed by fire. This $2.50 oneshot will feature material by Mark and Vaughn Bode, Richard Corben, Trina Robbins, Steve Leialoha, and others.

The Best of Rip Off Press Annual #1: 1989 is the first volume of a projected series. Scheduled for October release, the plans cal for this 96-page book to feature some of the best comics and stories published by Rip Off Press in the past year. ($8.95)

Late this fall, Rip Off will offer a two-volume set reprinting all the adventures of Fat Freddy's Cat. These volumes are being published in the same format as the ***Freak Brothers Library.*** ($8.95)

Slave Labor

Dead Air, originally announced as a $11+ series from Renegade Press, will be available from Slave Labor this October as a $4.95 104-page perfect bound book. ***Dead Air*** is the story of a man who finds his town cut off from the outside world. As paranoia sets in the town, this man decides he must locate his family and find out just what has happened. ***Dead Air***'s creator, J. Dalton Allred, will return in November with an ongoing series ***Graphique Musique,*** which will feature "It Was," a sequel of sorts to ***Dead Air.*** ($2.95)

The Jam #1 is the first issue of an all-new ***Jam*** bimonthly six-issue limited series by Bernie Mireault. The kick-off issue also features a Matt Wagner cover. ($1.95)

Tales From the Heart will be featured in an Epic Comics one-shot next year; for fans who want to find out what happened in the first two issues of this critically acclaimed series, Slave Labor is offering ***Tales From the Heart Revisited,*** a squarebound volume that reprints the Goff/Nieves/Hayden story of a young woman's experiences in the Peace Corps. ($2.95)

Thoughts & Images

The Albedo Novel #1 is just what the name says: It's a novel by Paul Kidd featuring Steve Gallacci's characters from the Albedo series. This 150-page novel is the first of a projected series of novels set in the Albedo universe. ($6)

3-D Zone

3-D Zone #24, on sale in September, will feature stories and photos of modern warfare, including a rare 3-D photo of Hitler and an even rarer 3-D photo of an atomic explosion. In October, ***3-D Zone #25: Exotic Beauties*** leads off with an all-new L.B. Cole cover and features Cole interiors. November's theme is ***Robot Love 3-D,*** and that issue of ***3-D Zone*** features material by Kubert, Wood, Kintsler, Anderson, Finlay, and Emshwiller. ($2.50 per issue)

Topps

Topps continues its series of quality Collectors Card Sets with a ***Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles Collectors Card Set*** in November. This set will feature 88 cards, 11 stickers, and 22 exclusive bonus cards only available in this boxed set. These bonus cards are shot from the Mirage Studios versions of the Turtles, not from the animated series. The cards are printed on the same quality white cardstock with cellogloze finish that was used for the three ***Batman*** card sets (one painted set, two movie sets). ($19.95)

Viz

September brings ***Nausicaa of the Valley of Wind Part Two #1.*** This picks up where the first book left off, and continues this popular fantasy series by Hayao Miyazaki. ($2.95)

Crying Freeman is the big Viz project for the fall; this is an adults only series by Koike and Ikegami, the writer of ***Lone Wolf & Cub*** and the artist of ***Mai the Psychic Girl. Crying Freeman*** is the story of an oriental assassin and a woman who becomes close to him. ***Crying Freeman*** is an 8-issue 64-page-per-book limited series. ($3.50)

Rumic World #1: Fire Tripper, slated to appear in comic shops in November, is the first in a series of quarterly graphic albums of varying lengths featuring self-contained stories by the creator of Lum, Rumiko Takahashi. The first issue is the story of a young girl freakishly transported back to feudal Japan; future issues will feature stories in various genres, from romance to sf to horror. $3.25)

Vortex

The Big Black Kiss, a prestige-format reprinting of ***Black Kiss*** (each issue will reprint four issues of the original ***Black Kiss*** series) is late--but then, so is the finale of ***Black Kiss. Black Kiss*** should wrap up in September or October, and ***Big Black Kiss*** should begin at the same time. ($3.75)

Have you seen anything in this issue of *Comic Shop News* that you can't live without? Make sure you don't miss it; clip this handy coupon and write down the things that you want you comics shop owner to be sure to get for you!

Name_____

Address _____

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I gotta have 'em! Please reserve for me the following items mentioned in *Comic Shop News!*

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Be sure to give this to your retailer. Do not send it to *CSN!* Your comics shop will make every effort to get the items you want; some items may require a down payment before your shop owner can get them for you; be sure to ask!

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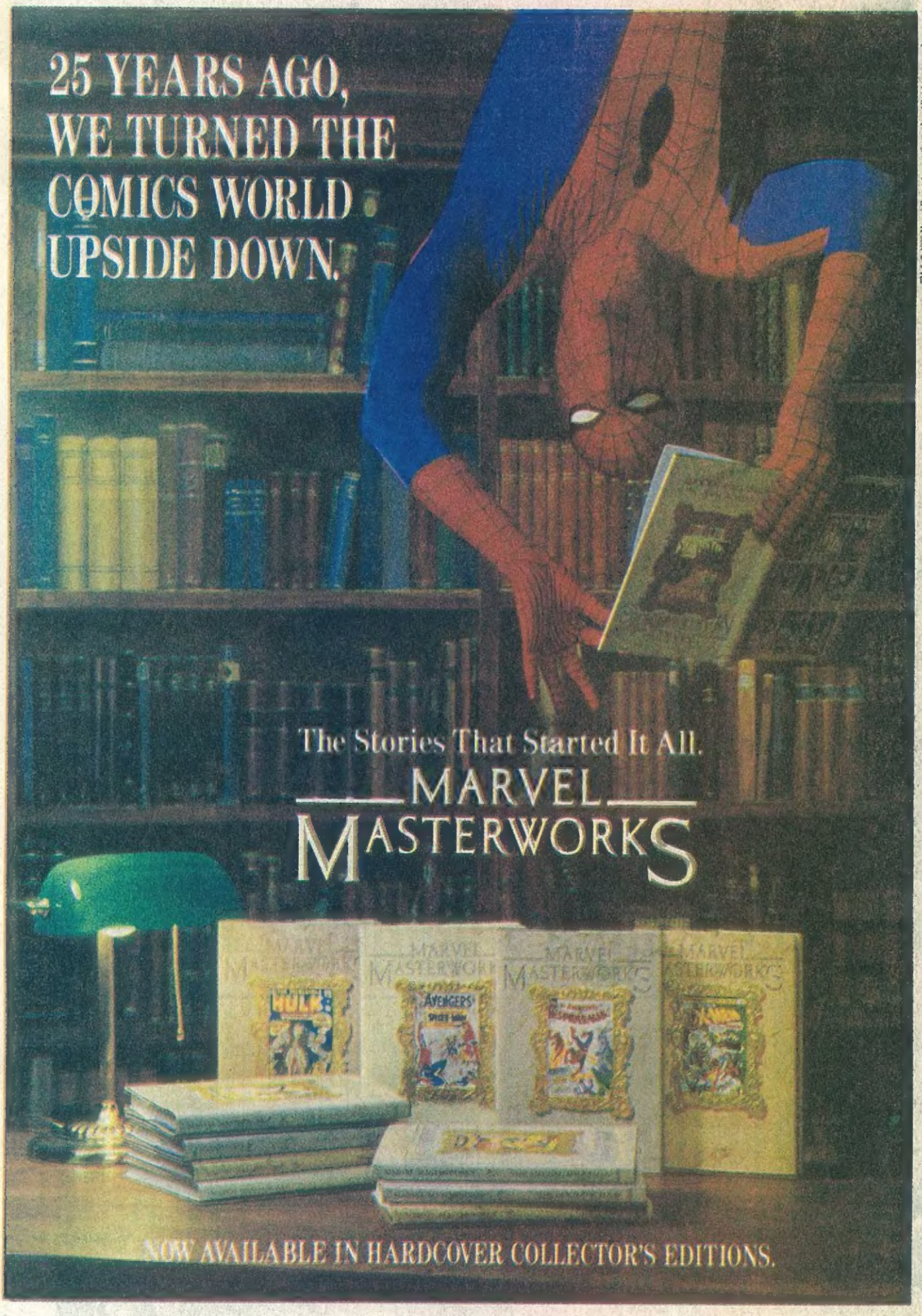

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